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(54) NETWORK PHOTO SERVICE SYSTEM

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To open only pictures to be viewed only to the other desired side on a network without spending requiring any labor or any costs at the time of photographing or after photographing in a network photo-service for providing a digital photographic service on the network.
SOLUTION: Pictures registered in a data base 16 and already registered album names (album 1, album 2, album 3) are displayed on the personal screen of a user, and a user is allowed to make the album name correspond to the picture, and the corresponding relation set by the user is stored in this system. When the album name is designated by the user, only the pictures belonging to the album are displayed based on the stored corresponding relation so that reading by album units can be attained.
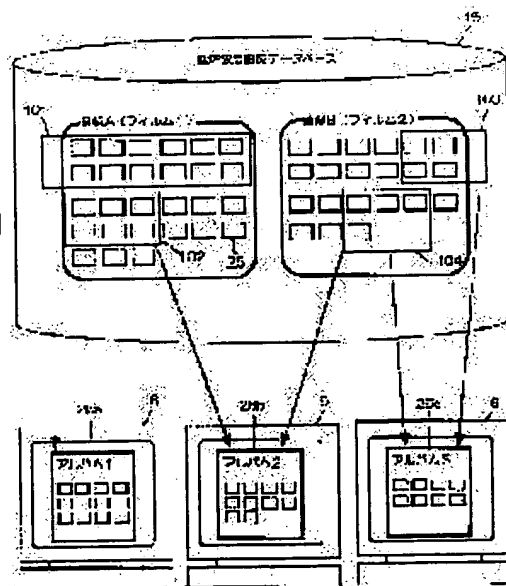
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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]
[Claim 1] An image storage means to offer the various services which use said image by exhibiting an image on a network and to be a network photograph service system and to memorize two or more images, By enabling on a network perusal of the image memorized by name and said image storage means of the image group registered beforehand The image selection means which enables it to choose one or more images to which a service user makes said each image group belong out of the image in which said perusal is possible, The image group management tool which manages an image group by memorizing the correspondence relation between said image group's name, and the image chosen as an image to which this image group is made to belong, When an image group's name is specified by the service user, it is based on the memorized correspondence relation. The network photograph service system characterized by having the group image public presentation means which enables on a network perusal only of the image which belongs to the image group of the name specified among the images memorized by said image storage means.
[Claim 2] The network photograph service system according to claim 1 characterized by enabling perusal of an image which belongs to said image group only to the service user as whom said group image public presentation means entered the password registered beforehand.
[Claim 3] The network photograph service system according to claim 1 or 2 characterized by having further the image group registration means which enables registration of the image group by the service user on said network.
[Claim 4] The network photograph service system according to claim 3 characterized by said image group registration means being a means to match and memorize the password for restricting an image group's name which said service user set up, and the perusal of an image which belongs to this image group.
[Claim 5] The network photograph service system of four given in any 1 term from claim 1 characterized by said image group management tool being a means to manage an image group by attaching the incidental information which shows an image group's name with which this each image belongs to said each image.
[Claim 6] The network photograph service system of five given in any 1 term from claim 1 to which it has further the comment attachment means which enables comment attachment by the service user on the network to the image exhibited by said group image public presentation means, and said group image public presentation means is characterized by enabling perusal of the comment information attached to this each image with said each image.
[Claim 7] The network photograph service system of six given in any 1 term from claim 1 characterized by having further the print order means which enables the print order on the network of the image exhibited by said group image public presentation means.

[Translation done.]

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]
[0001]
[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the network photograph service system which offers the digital photography services including print service on a network.
[0002]
[Description of the Prior Art] Conventionally, as one gestalt of digital photography service, a user's digital image is kept to the system of a service provider (registration), and the network photograph service which receives a print order etc. through networks, such as the Internet, is known.
[0003] With such service, if registration of a digital image is requested to a lab, for example at the time of film development, registration ID will be published to the user. The photograph recorded on the film is digitized in a lab or the service center of dedication, is kept by the system of a service provider, and is further exhibited on a network. A user can peruse a registered image by accessing the system of a service provider through a network. Under the present circumstances, perusal of an image is restricted by the above-mentioned registration ID. Moreover, Registration ID and a password restrict perusal to two steps in many cases.
[0004]
[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] as mentioned above -- network photograph service -- persons other than the owner of an image -- without notice -- the image **** -- perusal is restricted so that things may not be made. However, it is like the photograph of the travel performed, for example with the friend to show the others an image positively. In this case, with the conventional network photograph service, that partner was also able to peruse the image by teaching Registration ID and a password to the partner who wants to show an image.
[0005] However, if the photograph of a travel with a friend and the photograph of a family travel are registered with the same registration ID and a password when Registration ID and a password have been taught for example, even the photograph of a family travel will be looked at by the friend. In order to avoid this, after classifying the photograph beforehand for every partner who shows, registration to a lab had to be performed and different Registration ID and the different password for every partner to show had to be acquired.
[0006] However, many of network photograph service systems by which current offer is made are receiving registration of an image per film, and an image is displayed per film also in the case of perusal. Therefore, in order to acquire different registration ID for every partner shown as mentioned above, a photograph must be taken by exchanging films for every partner who shows. However, when a film generally remains, usually other photography is performed until it exhausts a film. That is, showing [of exchanging a film for every partner] is seldom performed actually.
[0007] Moreover, with the service which receives registration per film, when film 2 duty is photoed for one travel, there is a problem that those photographs cannot be perused collectively.
[0008] Furthermore, it is to show a different partner the same image as he wants to show the coworker of a firm the photograph taken, for example by the company trip, and to show the parents of a parents' home only the photograph with which the him in it was reflected further. In such a case, the image shown for every partner cannot be restricted with the conventional service which can register only per film.
[0009] Here, although the present condition is not carried out since registration reception processing becomes troublesome, the method of receiving registration not in a film unit but in the unit of arbitration is also considered. According to this approach, the batch registration of the photograph of film 2 duty and perusal are attained, for example. Moreover, it also becomes possible to register only the image to show to show for every partner.
[0010] However, to the system of a service provider, I hear that registering only the image to show showing for every partner must register the same image into a duplex and there is to show two or more partners one image as mentioned

above. If an image is registered into a duplex, since the capacity of the storage used for storage of an image and the cost for management will double, therefore a service charge will also double in the conventional system, this is not clearly [for a service provider / for a user] desirable.

[0011] On the other hand, it is a house or a photograph is digitized in a lab, it classifies for every partner who wants to show an image, and there is also a method of carrying to a separate homepage, respectively. However, in order to do such an activity, it takes appropriate time and effort. Moreover, creation of a homepage is not necessarily that all users can do it.

[0012] Therefore, the request of wanting to open only to the partner who wants to show only an image to show on a network, without also applying cost, without applying the time and effort after the time of photography or photography is increasing. This invention aims at offering the network photograph service system equipped with the function for carrying out the above services by low cost in view of this technical problem, without applying a burden to a user.

[0013]
[Means for Solving the Problem] The network photograph service system of this invention An image storage means to offer the various services which use said image by exhibiting an image on a network and to be a system and to memorize two or more images, By enabling on a network perusal of the image memorized by name and said image storage means of the image group registered beforehand The image selection means which enables it to choose one or more images to which a service user makes said each image group belong out of the image in which said perusal is possible, The image group management tool which manages an image group by memorizing the correspondence relation between said image group's name, and the image chosen as an image to which this image group is made to belong, When an image group's name is specified by the service user, it is based on the memorized correspondence relation. It is characterized by having the group image public presentation means which enables on a network perusal only of the image which belongs to the image group of the name specified among the images memorized by said image storage means.

[0014] A "image storage means" is an image database which specifically carries out storage management of the image kept for the user. As an image file of the file name decided based on the predetermined regulation (for example, Registration ID and an image registration day should put together) at the time of registration, storage storage is carried out at the mass hard disk etc., and each image is in the condition that it reads from a hard disk if needed, and can use. An image storage means does not necessarily restrict supporting one storage, for example, when distributing and keeping an image to two or more hard disks or the hard disk of two or more server computers, it shall be included.

[0015] A "image selection means" enables selection of the image according an image group's name which can be chosen as the personal computer screen of the user (service user) who has accessed the system through a network, and the image currently kept to a chart example, a number input, or mouse assignment. A user can choose one image group, can make sequential selection of the image to include in the group next, and can define an image group by finally pushing the O.K. carbon button etc. Or a selectable image group is displayed with a check box on the bottom of each image, and you may enable it to choose the image group to whom the image belongs for every image.

[0016] In addition, as for the image in which an image selection means indicates by list, it is desirable to consider only as the image which the user registered like the conventional network system in fact. However, since this invention is applicable not only about a user's registered image but the image which for example, the service provider side offers, the perusal limit function by the image selection means is not indispensable.

[0017] Moreover, all the identifiers for not necessarily distinguishing not only the name of an alphabetic character but an image group from "an image group's name" in this invention shall be included. That is, "group A", a "company trip", "G001", etc. are mentioned as an example.

[0018] A "image group management tool" memorizes the correspondence relation of the information acquired by the above-mentioned image selection means, i.e., the image which belongs to an image group and its image group. However, I hear that only the information which indicates matching "memorizes correspondence relation" here is memorized, and it is, and when classifying and memorizing the image itself for every image group, it does not contain. Namely, as for the body of an image, only one is saved even when one image belongs to two or more image groups.

[0019] How to memorize the table which matched an image group's name, the file name of an image, etc., for example as an approach of memorizing correspondence relation can be considered. Or matching of an image may be performed with an image group by attaching the incidental information which shows an image group's name with which each of that image belongs to each image.

[0020] That is, although the group division of the image was able to be carried out only by classifying and memorizing the body of an image in the conventional system, the system of this invention can define an image group by memorizing correspondence relation.

[0021] First, display an image group's name which can be chosen and a user enables it to specify an image group, and a "group image public presentation means" asks the personal computer screen of the user (service user) who has accessed the system through a network for the image which belongs in the image group specified at the degree from the memorized correspondence relation, and indicates only those images by list on it.

[0022] Under the present circumstances, this group image public presentation means may enable perusal of an image which belongs to said image group only to the service user who entered the password registered beforehand, and may restrict perusal.

[0023] Moreover, as for the above-mentioned system, it is desirable to have further the image group registration means which enables registration of the image group by the service user on said network. That is, like "Group A", "Group B", and "Group C", although the fixed name which the service provider determined may be used for the above "an image group's name registered beforehand", it is desirably good to prepare the function in which a user can register the image group of the name of arbitration, such as a "company trip" and a "Christmas party", on a network.

[0024] Under the present circumstances, the password for restricting an image group's name which was made to set up not only an image group's name but a password, and said user set up, and the perusal of an image which belongs to this image group may be matched and memorized. Thereby, it also becomes possible to restrict perusal by the group image public presentation means with a password.

[0025] Moreover, it is good even if perusal of the comment information which is further equipped with the comment attachment means which enables comment attachment by the service user on the network to the image opened to the above-mentioned system by said group image public presentation means, and is attached to this each image with said each image by said group image public presentation means is possible.

[0026] Moreover, you may have further the print order means which enables the print order on the network of the image exhibited by the group image public presentation means.

[0027]
[Effect of the Invention] According to the network photograph service system of this invention, since the group division of the registered image can be perused and carried out on a network, it is not necessary to classify an image according to the function of an image selection means beforehand at the time of registration of an image, and an image can be classified according to it regardless of the unit of registration.

[0028] Moreover, since it memorizes as correspondence relation between a group name and an image with an image group management tool, even when making one image belong to two or more image groups, the information about the group division inputted by the user at this time does not need to keep an image to a duplex like the conventional system, and can save storage cost.

[0029] Moreover, it has not been said that the image by which the group division was carried out will be looked at by the coworker even to the photograph of a family travel if only the photograph of a company trip is opened to the coworker of a firm as one group with a group image public presentation means even when the photograph of a company trip and a family travel is registered together since it is exhibited in the group unit for example.

[0030] That is, according to the system of this invention, a user accesses a system via a network, only performs an easy setup or a selection input, and can show only an image to show the partner who wants to show. In other words, by easy actuation, its own electronic album can be created on the system of a service provider, and the album can be shared with an acquaintance on a network.

[0031] In addition, if a group image public presentation means is made to enable perusal of an image which belongs to said image group only to the service user who entered the password registered beforehand in this case, it can open to the public in comfort also about the high image of confidentiality.

[0032] Moreover, if an image group registration means is established further and a user enables it to register the image group of the name of arbitration on a network, the class of image contained in each group can guess from a group name, and it is user-friendly for a user.

[0033] Moreover, it is easy to use for a user the way it enabled it to set up freely by the user also about a password although the service provider could publish.

[0034] furthermore, with an image group management tool, in case the correspondence relation between a group name and an image is memorized If correspondence relation is memorized by attaching the incidental information which shows an image group's name with which this each image belongs to each image For example, when predetermined storage limitation passes and an image is deleted, since the correspondence relation about the deleted image is deleted with the image, conflict does not produce it in the memorized correspondence relation. Although it must be got blocked, for example, it must relate when it was the case where a correlation table with an image group's name, the file name of an image, ID, etc. was created and memorized, and an image is deleted or a new image is already added by a certain

image group, and a table must be updated, since the need does not exist, by the approach of attaching an image group's name to an image, management is comparatively easy.

[0035] Moreover, those who perused the image to the exhibited image in the above-mentioned system enable it to attach a comment, and if those who perused the image after that enable it to refer to the attached comment further, a comment can be attached to the image on a network with the feeling same with circulating the album of paper and writing in a comment.

[0036] Furthermore, if it is made to place a print order of the image exhibited by the group image public presentation means, a photography person does not need to hear the order of an extra copy of an acquaintance, and does not need to turn, and each one can peruse an image and can place a print order of the desired photograph.

[0037]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, the gestalt of 1 operation of this invention is explained with reference to a drawing. First, the outline of a network photograph service system is explained.

[0038] Drawing 1 is drawing showing the overview of the network photograph service system in the gestalt of 1 operation of this invention. As shown in drawing 1 , this system offers digital photography service on a network to a user 1, when the service center 2 which receives a service order, and the special lab 4 equipped with the mini-laboratory 3 or special appliances which performs a printed output exchange information mutually through the Internet 5. Under the present circumstances, although it is realizable of connection with the Internet with all well-known gestalten, such as a dedicated line, dialup connection, and a CATV network, since a service center and a special lab need to perform many communication links especially, connection by the high-speed system dedicated line is desirable [a lab].

[0039] The image entry of data to this system is performed in a mini-laboratory 3. For example, although coincidence print service which develops a film, usually reads the film developed negatives with a scanner 7, and creates a print by the printer 9 is performed in the mini-laboratory 3, if registration of an image is also requested at the time of a request of this coincidence print service, the image data read in the film will be registered into the database which the lab server 8 manages, and the form which Registration ID and the registration password of an image described with the print will be returned to a user.

[0040] Drawing 2 is drawing which expressed to the internal configuration of the lab server 8 of a user's 1 personal computer 6, the center server 12 of a service center 2, a mini-laboratory 3, or the special lab 4 paying attention to the system of drawing 1 .

[0041] As mentioned above, when a user requests registration of an image, the image data read in the film 13 with the scanner 7 is registered into the high resolution image database 18 which the lab server 8 manages by the image registration function 17 of the lab server 8. Furthermore, in the lab server 8, the low resolution picture (henceforth a thumbnail image) on which the resolution of those image data was dropped is created, and it registers with the low resolution picture database 16 which the center server 12 of a service center 2 manages.

[0042] In addition, since the thumbnail image registered into the low resolution picture database 16 is used to the image data registered into the high resolution image database 18 being what is used for a printed output in case a user peruses an image on a personal computer screen, especially high image quality is not needed. Also in order to have to keep the thumbnail image transmitted from all labs, and to save a disk space, the smaller one of the amount of data of a thumbnail image is [the center server 12] desirable. With the gestalt of this operation, L size print is used as the 4 bases (about 1024x1792 pixel) which are the numbers of pixels required to output by 300dpi, and, on the other hand, the thumbnail image for perusal is using as the 1/4 base (about 368x256 pixel) the image data kept by the high resolution image database.

[0043] The center server 12 of a service center 2 offers various services to a user 1 by exhibiting on a network the thumbnail image registered into the above-mentioned low resolution picture database 16.

[0044] The various above-mentioned services are offered by the WWW application server 15 with the gestalt of a homepage. A program required in order to use the above-mentioned service to a user 1 is offered beforehand. For example, in the example of drawing 2 , by including in WWW browser 21, a user is provided with the plug-in 22 for digital photography service which enables perusal of the registered image by the browser 21, download, a print order, etc., and it is built into the personal computer 6. By building this plug-in into browsers, such as Netscape Navigator, and accessing the homepage of the center server 12, a user can peruse the above-mentioned thumbnail image and can demand various digital photography services, such as print service, about the perused image further.

[0045] For example, in order that a user may demand print service, when ordering information, such as the image ID for a print, print number of sheets, and print size, is inputted, the order file 14 of the predetermined data format those ordering information was described to be is created, and this order file 14 is transmitted to the application server 15 of the center server 12.

[0046] The WWW application server 15 distinguishes the lab where the high resolution image of Image ID to the image described in the order file is kept, and transmits the order file 14 to the lab server 8 of the lab. The lab server 8 analyzes the contents of the order file by the order file analysis feature 20, reads the image data for a print from the high resolution image database 18, it performs the image processing of expansion, contraction, or others if needed to the read image data (not shown), transmits processed image data to a printer 9, and directs a printed output.

[0047] As explained above, although various services are offered when this network photograph service system opens a thumbnail image to a user, public presentation of a thumbnail image was performed by that group unit considering the image registered when the same as one group here at the conventional network photograph service system (in registration unit). That is, when a user 1, for example, requested registration of all the images currently recorded on one film to the mini-laboratory 3, one registration ID and registration password were published to the image of the film 1 duty, and the user was able to peruse all the images of the film 1 duty by entering the registration ID and a registration password into a system.

[0048] The network photograph service system of this invention is characterized by having the image public presentation function made into the unit of public presentation of the image group of the arbitration which the user set up in addition to the image public presentation function in the above-mentioned registration unit. Hereafter, an image group's thing which this user sets up shall be called a network album.

[0049] Drawing 3 is drawing showing the concept of this network album. For example, suppose that a certain user photoed film 2 duty, and registered all the photoed images into the system. Under the present circumstances, since this system can receive registration only per film, The thumbnail image 25 for 27 coma currently recorded on the 1st film as a registration A group Moreover, the thumbnail image 25 for 21 coma currently recorded on the 2nd film should be registered into the low resolution picture database 16 as a registration B group, respectively, and two registration ID should be published to the user.

[0050] In the conventional system, when a user perused a thumbnail image, perusing a registration A group or a registration B group as a bundle was only completed. However, in the network album of this invention, as shown in drawing 3 , an image can be exhibited by making into one group the image chosen as arbitration irrespective of the classification at the time of image registration by choosing the image of arbitration from registered images and creating an album.

[0051] For example, 1st network album 26a shown in drawing 3 is an album which consists only of an image surrounded by the frame 101 in a registration A group. Moreover, 2nd network album 26b is an album which consists of six images surrounded by the frame 102 in a registration A group, and four images surrounded by the frame 104 in a registration B group. Moreover, 3rd network album 26c is an album which consists of eight images surrounded by the frames 103 and 104 in a registration B group.

[0052] Twelve photographs of a family travel are specifically taken with a film 1. Although even a family's photograph will be looked at by the coworker of a firm by exhibiting a registration A group in the conventional system when the photograph of a company trip is taken with 2 Motome's film since the photograph of a company trip was taken and the film became insufficient further with the surplus film One network album 26a is created only with the photograph (namely, image surrounded by the frame 101) of a family travel. As mentioned above, about the photograph of a company trip The photograph which chooses the good thing of performance, for example, is shown to all personnel is carried to network album 26b, and only a photograph to show the partner who wants to show can be exhibited as the photograph shown only to the coworker of synchronous entrance into a company is carried to network album 26c.

[0053] In addition, in the above-mentioned example, although four images surrounded by a registration B group's frame 104 will belong to two kinds of network albums, the thumbnail image currently kept by the low resolution picture database 16 is not reproduced. That is, it does not pass over a network album to an album name and the correspondence-related information of an image, and it does not classify and memorize an image data body. Therefore, the capacity of a hard disk required in order to realize a network album function does not necessarily increase extremely compared with the conventional system.

[0054] Drawing 4 and drawing 5 are drawings showing an example of the storage gestalt of the correspondence relation between an album name and an image. Drawing 4 memorizes the related table of an album name and Image ID. That is, if the image ID which consists of a registration group and the serial number shall be attached, for example to each thumbnail image 25, the image ID 29 of the image which belongs to the network album of the album name 28 and its album name 28 as shown in drawing 4 will be memorized as a related table 27. In this case, when the WWW application server 15 discovers the related table of the network album specified when one network album was specified from a user, is beginning to read the thumbnail image 25 of the image ID currently recorded on that table one by one from the low resolution picture database 16 and displays on the screen of a user's personal computer 6, the above-mentioned network

album function is realizable.

[0055] On the other hand, drawing 5 is a gestalt which memorizes correspondence relation by saving the thumbnail image 25 as one image file, respectively, establishing the field 30 which describes an album name in the header field of the file, and describing the album name (or the album ID in which the album is shown being sufficient) to which the image belongs to the field. In this case, the above-mentioned network album function is realizable by the WWW application server 15 carrying out the sequential check of the file header of the thumbnail image 25 which that user registered, and making it not display, if the album name specified by the user is included in the header, if that thumbnail image is displayed and it is not contained.

[0056] With the gestalt of drawing 5 , in order to have to define a format of a file header beforehand, the number of the network albums with which one image can belong must also be beforehand defined by immobilization. That is, if only three define the field 30 which describes an album name, the same image as four or more network albums cannot be made to belong.

[0057] On the other hand, there is such no constraint with the gestalt of drawing 4 . However, with the gestalt of drawing 4 , since conflict arises on a related table if it remains as it is when the image data in a database has been deleted, since the registration period passed, a system must perform complicated processing of rewriting a related table.

[0058] On the other hand, by the approach of drawing 5 , since the above constraint is deleted the whole file when the image data of a certain thing is deleted, even if a system does nothing, a network album is maintained without conflict.

[0059] In the above, although the concept and the implementation approach of a network album were explained, creation processing and perusal processing of a network album are explained below. Drawing 6 is drawing having shown the processing (processing carried out to a detail between a browser 21 and the WWW application server 15) performed between a user's personal computer 6 and the center server 12.

[0060] The WWW application server 15 requires the input of user ID and a user password of the user who has accessed. This user ID is ID which is assigned one to one user unlike the above-mentioned registration ID. The system has managed the various information about a user by user ID. Therefore, in order to manage which user registered what kind of network album, a system needs to match user ID and the name of a network album, and it is necessary to memorize it.

[0061] For this reason, in order to register a network album, a user has to register user ID to a service provider first. In the following explanation, user ID shall already be registered.

[0062] The WWW application server 15 collates the user ID and the user password which were entered by the user with the user ID and the user password which are registered into User Information 31 which the User Information database 32 manages. When the user ID and the user password which the user entered are effective, a main menu is displayed on a screen. In a main menu, a user chooses the item of a network album first and registers a network album (definition).

[0063] Selection of the item of a network album displays a network album registration screen on a user's screen. With the gestalt of this operation, a user can register a network album by entering a desired network album name and a desired network album password into the box in which it was specified on the screen. As one of the User Information 31, it is matched with user ID and the network album name and network album password which were entered are memorized, as shown in drawing 6 . If registration of a network album is completed, a screen will once return to a main menu.

[0064] Next, if the item of network album creation is chosen by the main menu, the WWW application server 15 will search and read the thumbnail image corresponding to the user ID inputted by the initial screen out of the thumbnail image registered into the low resolution picture database 16. Retrieval is realizable by embedding user ID at the header of an image file for example, at the time of image registration. The WWW application server 15 is displayed with the name of the network album with which the user registered the read thumbnail image on the user's personal computer screen.

[0065] Drawing 7 is drawing showing an example of this network album creation screen. In this example, a registered network album name is displayed with a check box on the bottom of each image. A user performs matching with a network album name and an image by deciding the network album with which the image belongs, and checking the check box of the network album about each image. Drawing 7 belongs only to the network album [image / ID 0005] "the secret of a travel" by an image 0001, 0002, and ID 0003 belonging only to the network album a "company trip", and other two images show the condition that assignment of making it belong to both network albums was made. The correspondence relation specified by a user is memorized by the WWW application server 15 with a gestalt like for example, above-mentioned drawing 4 or drawing 5 .

[0066] The network album created by the above processing can be perused by all the users that know not only an album implementer but user ID, the network album name, and the network album password. With the gestalt of this operation,

since the input of a user password is not required at the time of album perusal, an album implementer does not need to teach an album visitor a user password.
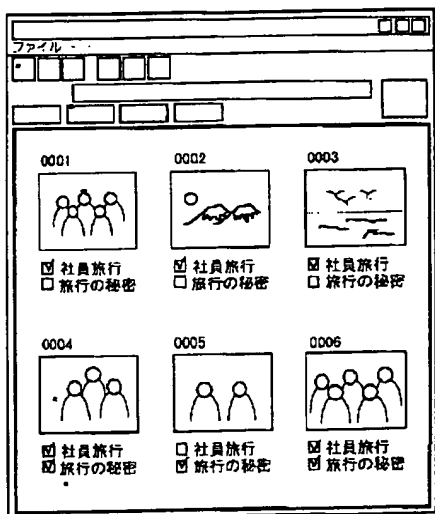
[0067] If an album visitor inputs user ID on a homepage screen, the WWW application server 15 will read the name of the network album registered by the user ID inputted out of User Information 31 memorized, and will display it on a screen. An album visitor chooses a network album to peruse and enters a network album password. A WWW application server judges the effectiveness of the network album password by collating the entered network album password with the network album password memorized by User Information 31. A network album is displayed when a network album password is effective.

[0068] Here, an album visitor can choose and do the enlarged display of the one image out of the thumbnail image by which it was indicated by the list as a network album. Although drawing 8 is drawing showing an example of an enlarged display screen, it can attach or peruse a comment on this screen with the gestalt of this operation. In the example of drawing 8 , the comment of the registrant (implementer of a network album) of the image is displayed as an owner comment on the bottom of an image. Furthermore, the box into which an album visitor can input a comment is prepared for the bottom of it as free comment field. The comment which the album visitor inputted is displayed when an album implementer or other album visitors peruse the network album behind. Moreover, you may enable it to attach not only the comment in an alphabetic character but a voice comment.
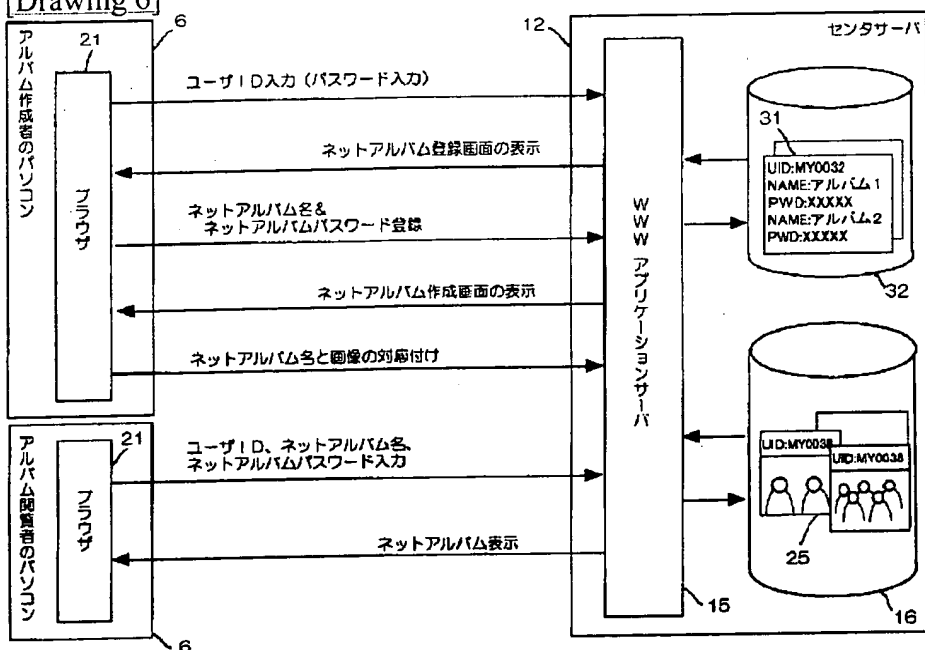
[0069] In addition, about the image exhibited as a network album, a print order can be performed by the approach shown in above-mentioned drawing 2 . That is, although the units of the public presentation at the time of exhibiting a thumbnail image differ, a user can demand various services on a network like the case where an image is exhibited per registration, from the image perused as a network album.

[0070] As mentioned above, according to the network album function with which the network photograph service system of this invention is equipped as explained, an acquaintance and an electronic album are easily sharable on a network. Furthermore, various new services like the above-mentioned comment attachment service can also be offered now by enabling it to share an album on a network. Moreover, the perusal limit with a network album password cannot be performed, but usage of exhibiting its own photograph can also be carried out to many and unspecified visitors. Namely, a network album not only says that the album of the conventional paper online-ized, but brings about digitization and higher added value for it.
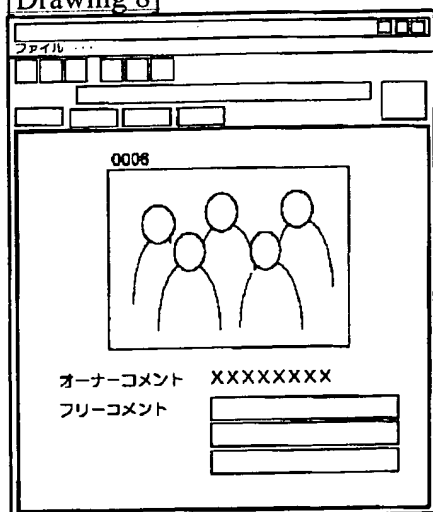

[Translation done.]

ファイル ・・・

0001 ☑ 社員旅行 □ 旅行の秘密
0002 ☑ 社員旅行 □ 旅行の秘密
0003 ☑ 社員旅行 □ 旅行の秘密
0004 ☑ 社員旅行 ☑ 旅行の秘密
0005 □ 社員旅行 ☑ 旅行の秘密
0006 ☑ 社員旅行 ☑ 旅行の秘密

[Drawing 6]

アルバム作成者のパソコン 21 6
ブラウザ

ユーザID入力（パスワード入力）
ネットアルバム登録画面の表示
ネットアルバム名＆
ネットアルバムパスワード登録
ネットアルバム作成画面の表示
ネットアルバム名と画像の対応付け

アルバム閲覧者のパソコン 21
ブラウザ

ユーザID、ネットアルバム名、
ネットアルバムパスワード入力
ネットアルバム表示

6

12 センタサーバ

WWW アプリケーションサーバ

31
UID:MY0032
NAME:アルバム1
PWD:XXXXX
NAME:アルバム2
PWD:XXXXX
32

UID:MY0038 UID:MY0038
25

15 16

[Drawing 8]

ファイル ・・・

0006

オーナーコメント XXXXXXXX
フリーコメント

[Translation done.]